

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06107 041601Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /020 W
-----050223Z 128449 /66

R 041355Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6976
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 6107

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, UR, PORS, ECRE
SUBJECT: GERMAN FIRE PREVENTION EXPERT AND THE ROSSIYA FIRE

1. GERMAN EMBOFF HAS TOLD US THAT A MEMBER OF THE FRANKFURT FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS IN MOSCOW DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS IN APRIL. HE WAS INVITED BY THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT (AND REPORTEDLY WITHOUT THE ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GERMAN EMBASSY) BECAUSE HE IS A LEADING EXPERT ON FIRE PREVENTION. HE WAS INVITED TO MOSCOW IN ORDER TO EXAMINE THE FIRE PREVENTION AND DETECTION DEVICES IN MOSCOW'S HOTELS IN ADVANCE OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES.

2. WHILE THE FIRE EXPERT WAS HERE HE WAS TAKEN TO THE ROSSIYA HOTEL, SCENE OF A MAJOR FIRE IN LATE FEBRUARY. AT THE HOTEL, HE WAS TOLD THAT THE FIRE HAD STARTED IN A SERVICE ROOM WHERE THE CHAR FORCE KEPT ITS CLEANING MATERIALS. THESE MATERIALS IGNITED, AND BECAUSE THE ROOM WAS NEXT TO AN ELEVATOR SHAFT, THE FIRE SPREAD BY WAY OF THE SHAFT. THE GERMAN WAS REPORTEDLY CONVINCED THAT THE FIRE WAS NOT CAUSED BY A FAULT IN THE ELEVATORS THEMSELVES.

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 06107 041601Z

3. THE EXPERT WAS REPORTEDLY APPALLED AT THE LACK OF PRECAUTIONS AND THE ABSENCE OF MODERN FIRE PREVENTION AND DETECTION TECHNIQUES IN THE ROSSIYA AND OTHER HOTELS WHICH HE VISITED.

4. GERMAN EMBOFF IMPLIED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD KEPT THE FIRE EXPERT SO OCCUPIED THAT HE HAD LITTLE TIME

TO VISIT THE EMBASSY AND SHARE HIS FINDINGS. WE WOULD
APPRECIATE ANY DETAILS THAT AMCON FRANKFURT COULD
ADD,IF IT FEELS IT APPROPRIATE TO ASK THE FRANKFURT
FIRE BRIGADE ABOUT THIS VISIT.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIRE SAFETY, VISITS, CONSULTANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770157-0368
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770596/aaaadeob.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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